

INFORMATION LETTER

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Not for
Publication

For Members
Only

No. 1409

Washington, D. C.

October 18, 1952

Radio and TV Schedule of Appert Broadcasts

Following is a time schedule of national or regional network radio and TV programs that will mention Appert as the "Father of Canning" during the week of October 19. The list includes all that have reported such detail to N.C.A. In addition there are many local radio programs in various parts of the country that have been arranged for by N.C.A. member-sponsors.

[Editor's Note: Art Linkletter's House Party Show on both radio and TV CBS national hookups carried announcements October 17 of the Appert birthday occasion. Sponsor is the Green Giant Company.]

October 18

The American Farmer, 12:30 p.m. EST, ABC radio network; cooperation with USDA and land-grant colleges.

October 22

Claude Mahoney (will interview Martha Gazella, N.C.A. Home Economics staff), 10 a.m. EST, CBS-TV network.

Mark Evans Show (will interview Carlos Campbell, N.C.A. Secretary), 7 p.m. EST, CBS-TV Washington Station WTOP; sponsor—William Underwood Co.

October 23

The John Conte Show, 8:55 a.m. EST, ABC radio network; sponsor—Stokely-Van Camp, Inc.

Double or Nothing, 10:30 a.m. EST, NBC radio network; sponsor—Campbell Soup Company.

Nancy Osgood (will interview Howard R. Smith, N.C.A. Laboratory staff), 12:15 p.m. EST, NBC radio Washington Station WRC.

The Garry Moore Show, 1:45 p.m. EST, CBS-TV network; sponsor—Stokely-Van Camp, Inc.

October 24

Double or Nothing, 2 p.m. EST, CBS-TV network; sponsor—Campbell Soup Company.

Club Fifteen, 7:30 p.m. EST, CBS radio network; sponsor—Campbell Soup Company.

October 25

National Farm and Home Hour, 1 p.m. EST, NBC radio network; cooperation with USDA and land-grant colleges.

1952 Procurement Methods Recommended for Next Year

Continuance of this year's procurement program, which included the Walsh-Healey exemption, use of letter contract, set-asides, and direct non-competitive negotiation through a field buying organization, was urged for 1953 at the annual convention of the Quartermaster Association in Atlanta, Ga., October 17.

Alfred J. Stokely, chairman of the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of QMA, and also of the Procurement Committee of the National Canners Association, in an address at the convention made the following comment:

"It is the recommendation of the Quartermaster Association's Fruit and Vegetable Committee and also the recommendations of the Procurement Committee of the National Canners Association that this year's procurement program be continued in 1953 under existing statutory authority. Such a program allows the Quartermaster General to economically maintain a basis from which greatly increased canned food requirements can be obtained. In effect, the program is a stockpiling of methods, techniques, and general know-how against an emergency. No change in the procurement system would be necessary should we be confronted with an all-out defense effort.

"Our economy, many believe, can support a defense program that includes a military force of 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 without special emergency wartime laws. Should the present emergency statutory authority cease to be available, the canned food procurement program now in effect and

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Indicated Production of Processing Vegetables

The prospective 1952 production of nine important truck crops for commercial processing on October 1 is estimated at 5.79 million tons, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In 1951, the production of these crops totaled 6.94 million tons, and for the preceding 10-year period, it averaged 5.09 million tons. These estimates cover all of the processing crops regularly estimated by BAE except asparagus, cucumbers for pickles, open-market purchases of kraut cabbage and the fall crop of processing spinach.

Details of the BAE report for October 1 are reported on page 280.

Rail Freight Rates

The new tariff (Boin's #164) containing reduced rail freight rates on canned foods within Official Territory (see INFORMATION LETTER, Sept. 6, page 251) has been suspended in part by the Interstate Commerce Commission pending hearings to be held on November 17 at 9:30 a.m., Room 852, U. S. Customs House, Chicago, Ill.

The complete tariff was suspended on September 16 until September 26, at which time the 36 thousand pound scale became effective but the 60 thousand pound scale was suspended as noted above.

Strength Revealed In All Current Economic Indicators

Practically all economic indicators show considerable strength at the present time. Economic activity continued upward during September to reach a rate equal to the previous post-war high in the spring of 1951, according to the October issue of the Council of Economic Advisors' report, *Economic Indicators*.

Production—Total industrial production increased 4 percent in September to reach a rate equal to the previous post-war high of April, 1951.

September production increases were reflected in machinery and other metal working lines, television sets, household appliances, auto production and textiles and apparel. The only production indexes below a year ago were iron and steel manufactures, textiles, manufactured food products and chemical products. The August index of production for processed fruits and vegetables is shown in the table below in comparison with total industry pro-

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STATISTICS

Lima Beans for Processing

The prospective 1952 production of green lima beans for processing is 84,800 tons, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported. This estimate, based on October 1 conditions, is 1 percent more than was indicated on September 1 this year, 11 percent less than was harvested in 1951, but 67 percent more than the 10-year average production. Compared with a month earlier, indicated production decreased in California, New York and Pennsylvania, remained the same in Delaware and Maryland and increased in the other principal producing states.

The October 1 indicated yield per acre is 1,703 pounds which compares with 1,776 pounds for 1951 and a 10-year average of 1,314 pounds. Prospective average yields per acre are above average for all of the major producing states.

State	Production		
	10-yr.		1952
	Avg.	1941-50	Indicated
(tons—shelled)			
New York	820	2,600	3,580
New Jersey	7,910	9,580	10,200
Pennsylvania	1,660	2,820	3,040
Ohio	430	240	220
Michigan	1,260	2,120	1,170
Wisconsin	2,600	3,840	5,060
Delaware	9,500	18,340	13,500
Maryland	2,390	3,170	1,950
Virginia	2,030	3,180	3,080
Washington	840	1,720	1,710
California	12,060	32,000	27,200
Other states	9,300	15,330	14,000
U. S. Total	50,910	95,120	84,800

¹ Ark., Colo., Ga., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Minn., Mo., Okla., Ore., Tenn., and Utah.

Pimientos for Processing

Conditions on October 1 indicated a production of 11,200 tons of pimientos in Georgia, BAE said. Although this is a slight increase from prospects on September 1, the prospective 1952 production is about 27 percent less than the 1951 crop of 15,300 tons and is about 34 percent less than the 10-year average production of 16,910 tons. The extreme heat and dry weather last summer damaged the crop and it is expected that considerable acreage will be abandoned.

The indicated production of 11,200 tons covers only production from acreage in Georgia. It does not cover production from acreage being grown in other states for Georgia processors.

Green Peas for Processing

A total of 432,520 tons of green peas for processing was harvested in 1952, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This compares with 511,800 tons harvested in 1951 and the 1941-50 average production of 415,110 tons.

The revised estimate of acreage planted in 1952 to green peas for processing is 443,480 acres. The preliminary estimate of acreage harvested is 422,890 acres. The difference between the planted and harvested acreage, 20,590 acres or about 5 percent, represents acreage from which no peas were harvested for canning, freezing, and other processing.

The 1952 estimated yield per acre is 2,046 pounds of shelled green peas. This compares with a record high yield of 2,279 pounds obtained in 1951 and the 1941-50 average of 1,962 pounds per acre.

The estimated 1952 production of green peas for freezing is 113,880 tons. This compares with 108,740 tons used for freezing in 1951 and a 1941-50 average of 62,260 tons. This year's tonnage for freezing is the largest on record.

The estimated 1952 production for canning, strained and baby food is 318,640 tons. This compares with 403,060 tons estimated for 1951 and 352,850 tons for the 1941-50 period.

State	Production		
	10-yr.		1952
	Avg.	1941-50	Revised
(tons—shelled)			
Maine	5,030	9,770	4,050
New York	29,720	26,980	17,670
New Jersey	4,110	5,630	4,080
Pennsylvania	16,230	17,750	13,520
Ohio	3,740	2,500	1,880
Indiana	5,610	2,670	2,330
Illinois	20,600	31,650	25,110
Michigan	7,220	5,670	4,560
Wisconsin	128,800	160,330	126,660
Minnesota	35,660	53,670	48,180
Iowa	3,630	3,480	3,070
Delaware	2,040	2,520	2,830
Maryland	10,530	11,110	8,580
Virginia	1,710	1,970	1,630
Idaho	6,750	10,200	11,140
Colorado	4,050	4,340	3,250
Utah	19,260	14,000	7,120
Washington	51,660	74,360	71,280
Oregon	47,340	54,050	55,540
California	4,830	13,600	15,040
Other states	6,590	8,550	4,370
U. S. Total	415,110	511,800	432,520
For freezing	62,260	108,740	113,880
For canning and other processing	352,850	403,060	318,640

¹ Ark., Ga., Kans., Mo., Mont., Nebr., Okla., Tenn., W. Va., and Wyo.

Beets for Canning

The October 1 indicated production of beets for canning at 121,000 tons is practically unchanged from a month ago, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The prospective 1952 production is 20 percent below last year and 13 percent below average. Compared with prospects on September 1 this year, the October 1 estimates show slight gains in New York and Oregon, reductions in Michigan and minor producing states, and no change in Wisconsin and New Jersey.

The October 1 indicated yield per acre for all states is 8.46 tons compared with 9.11 tons in 1951 and 8.27 tons, the 10-year average.

State	Production		
	10-yr.		1952
	Avg.	1941-50	Indicated
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
New York	43,500	34,200	30,400
New Jersey	5,800	8,800	4,200
Michigan	7,900	8,900	4,900
Wisconsin	48,600	64,100	52,000
Oregon	18,100	25,100	17,200
Other states	15,500	10,300	12,300
U. S. Total	139,400	151,400	121,000

¹ Calif., Colo., Ill., Ind., Iowa, La., Me., Md., Minn., Miss., Ohio, Pa., Tenn., Texas, Utah, and Wash.

Tomatoes for Processing

On October 1, a total of 3,253,140 tons of tomatoes for processing was indicated for 1952, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This indicated production is about 28 percent less than the 1951 production of 4,503,890 tons, but 11 percent more than 1941-50 average production of 2,929,200 tons. The tonnage now in prospect for 1952 is about 6 percent more than was indicated on September 1, 1952.

On October 1, a yield of 8.38 tons was indicated for 1952. This compares with 9.83 tons obtained in 1951 and a 1941-50 average yield of 6.10 tons. The yield of 14.5 tons indicated on October 1 for California is considerably above average and almost equals last year's record high per acre yield of 14.9 tons.

In California above normal temperatures during September resulted in the rapid maturing of the tomato crop which was considered to be behind schedule earlier in the season and complete harvest of late fields appeared certain as of October 1. Some tonnage has been lost due to sunburn and sunscald, and the inability of some growers to keep abreast of the rapid

development of the crop. However, crop prospects have improved substantially in California and the increase in the forecast of production for this state accounts for most of the change in the national October 1 estimate. Open weather in other states in September permitted late season harvest to continue, and current yield forecasts are slightly higher than those of September 1 in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Florida, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and Utah. Crop prospects declined in Indiana and Illinois, but remained unchanged in the other producing states.

State	Production		
	10-yr.	1952	Indicated
	1941-50	1951	
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
New York	161,500	190,000	170,200
New Jersey	216,400	316,200	241,500
Pennsylvania	158,000	217,100	183,800
Ohio	185,100	181,400	191,000
Indiana	404,800	588,000	299,000
Illinois	61,200	94,700	58,800
Michigan	46,400	62,500	67,500
Wisconsin	8,600	4,200	4,800
Iowa	13,400	5,800	8,100
Missouri	28,500	18,000	10,400
Delaware	46,000	30,800	17,100
Maryland	222,800	228,800	134,000
Virginia	97,000	63,000	49,300
S. Carolina	4,400	8,600	5,400
Florida	12,000	34,450	35,240
Kentucky	10,700	6,700	2,600
Tennessee	10,700	5,700	2,600
Arkansas	33,500	29,200	19,000
Oklahoma	3,400	1,000	800
Texas	46,700	35,200	21,600
Colorado	25,600	24,500	23,400
Utah	71,100	69,600	70,200
California	980,800	2,210,000	1,624,000
Other states	20,000	18,440	12,800
U. S. Total	2,929,200	4,503,890	3,253,140

¹ Sum of estimates by seasonal groups. ² Ala., Ariz., Conn., Ga., Idaho, Kans., La., Minn., Miss., Neb., N. Mex., N. Car., Ore., Wash., and W. Va.

Cabbage for Kraut

Prospects for contract production of cabbage for kraut improved during September in New York, Michigan, Ohio and Colorado, according to BAE. The October 1 indicated production is 100,000 tons which compares with 97,000 tons indicated on September 1 this year, 101,900 tons obtained in 1951 and a 10-year average of 85,000 tons. This estimate includes production from acreage grown by kraut packers on their own or leased land, as well as production from acreage grown under contract, but it does not include open-market purchases of cabbage for manufacture into sauerkraut.

Total supplies of cabbage for fresh market and kraut manufacture in the summer and early fall domestic areas

are indicated at 516,900 tons. These areas produce most of the cabbage used for kraut. The October 1 estimate of 516,900 tons is about 3 percent more than the 501,600 tons indicated on September 1 this year but 6 percent less than the 549,800 tons produced in 1951 and 2 percent less than the 10-year average of 529,200 tons. The acreage in these areas under contract to kraut packers is expected to produce 88,800 tons compared with 93,400 tons last year. This leaves 428,100 tons from the summer and early fall domestic crops available for fresh market and open-market purchases by kraut packers. This compares with 456,400 tons available in 1951.

Sweet Corn for Processing

Prospects for sweet corn for processing improved during September, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The indicated 1952 production, based on October 1 conditions, is for a crop of 1,465,400 tons, an increase of nearly 5 percent over that indicated on September 1. The prospective 1952 crop is 24 percent larger than that harvested in 1951 and 25 percent above the 10-year average.

The improvement in prospects during September occurred chiefly in the northern states, with Wisconsin, Illinois, New York and Oregon accounting for most of the increase.

The indicated yield per acre for 1952 is 3.10 tons compared with 2.74 tons last year and 2.53 tons the average for the preceding 10 years.

State	Production		
	10-yr.	1952	Indicated
	1941-50	1951	
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
Maine	35,400	29,200	22,800
New Hampshire	1,500	1,400	1,700
Vermont	2,400	2,200	2,000
New York	62,300	62,600	86,400
Pennsylvania	27,100	26,800	21,000
Ohio	50,200	30,200	33,000
Indiana	74,900	50,000	59,800
Illinois	176,300	183,300	219,400
Michigan	4,400	2,200	3,200
Wisconsin	201,300	212,100	338,200
Minnesota	213,800	234,100	285,600
Iowa	97,800	52,200	79,500
Nebraska	5,400	3,600	3,100
Delaware	9,000	12,600	10,200
Maryland	85,400	71,900	75,900
Virginia	1,500	2,800	2,500
Idaho	23,300	46,000	49,000
Utah	11,400	27,600	26,400
Washington	40,100	52,100	62,300
Oregon	26,900	54,000	62,500
Other states	23,000	27,900	20,000
U. S. Total	1,174,000	1,184,800	1,465,400

¹ Ark., Colo., Mont., N. J., Okla., S. Dak., Tenn., Texas, and Wyo.

General Crop Report

The Bureau of Agriculture Economics reported in its General Crop Report, covering October 1 conditions, that improvement in prospects for most principal late-growing crops during September increased the prospective total crop volume nearly 2 percent. With a corn crop of 3,257 million bushels in prospect—second only to 1948—the expected total volume of crop production this year is the second largest of record, and only 3 percent below the peak in 1948.

Current estimates indicate improvement in prospects since September 1 for corn, all hay, cotton, spring wheat, oats, barley, rice, flaxseed, sugar beets, peanuts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tobacco, dry beans, peaches, pears, grapes and pecans. The only crops with poorer prospects were sorghum grain, sugarcane, apples and cranberries. No new estimates were made this month for winter wheat, rye, dry peas, nor broomcorn.

The all-crop production index is now computed at 131 percent of the 1923-32 base, compared with less than 129 on September 1. The only crop season exceeding this was that of 1948, when the index was 135 percent. Only winter wheat and rice are setting production records this year. Thus the large aggregate comes from a large number of above-average crops, including the second-largest crops of corn and soybeans; others are cotton, all hay, tobacco, sugarcane, sugar beets, hops; pears, grapes, cherries, cranberries and pecans. Oats will be nearly up to average, but barley, rye, flaxseed, sorghum grain, dry beans and peas, peanuts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, broomcorn, apples, peaches and apricots are below average in output.

Harvest of late maturing deciduous fruits and nuts is progressing satisfactorily, the report stated. Estimated total production of deciduous fruit increased 1 percent over a month ago, but is still 9 percent below last and 4 percent below average, according to BAE. Declines from a month ago in apples and prunes were more than offset by increases in peaches, pears and grapes. All crops except pears are smaller in volume than a year ago.

BAE reported that apple production is the lowest since 1948; declines in prospects from a month ago in the eastern and central regions were only partly offset by an increase in the West. The peach crop was below last year and average. Harvest of pears is practically completed with late varieties now being picked. Pro-

duction is above last year and average. Grape prospects improved during September mainly because of larger crops in California. The prune crop turned out below earlier expectations. Prospects for cranberries declined during September, BAE said. A record orange crop is indicated in Florida while grapefruit is below last year. Citrus prospects in California and Arizona are better than last season. Texas will have another extremely short citrus crop.

October 1 conditions of fruit crops were reported by BAE as follows:

Peaches—The 1952 crop is estimated at 62,622,000 bushels—2 percent less than last year and 8 percent less than average. The October 1 estimate is a million bushels above the September estimate, mostly accounted for by a larger California clingstone crop.

By regions, the estimates of production are: North Atlantic states 5,180,000 bushels—down 13 percent from the large crop last year; South Atlantic 10,445,000 bushels—down 24 percent from the large crop last year; north central 7,122,000 bushels—more than three times as large as the very short crop last year; south central 4,162,000 bushels—45 percent above last year but 41 percent below average; western 35,713,000 bushels—8 percent below last year and 2 percent below average. California clingstones are now estimated at 19,085,000 bushels—about a million bushels above the September estimate but 22 percent less than last year and 2 percent less than average. Canning has been completed. California freestones are placed at 10,918,000 bushels—4 percent less than last year and 2 percent less than average.

Pears—Pear production is forecast at 30,879,000 bushels—4 percent above a month ago, 3 percent above the 1951 crop and 2 percent above average. Generally, the increase from a month ago was due to a larger Bartlett crop on the Pacific Coast.

The western crop is placed at 26,994,000 bushels, up 1,101,000 bushels from a month ago and 2,151,000 bushels above average. The Bartlett crop in the Pacific Coast states is placed at 20,029,000 bushels and the other varieties at 6,389,000 bushels. In Washington, harvest of Bartletts was practically completed in early September and harvest of the winter pear crop was well along on October 1. Some frost marked fruit was harvested this year. In a few orchards, much of this type of fruit was left unharvested. Harvest of Bartletts in Oregon is completed and harvest of other varieties is now in full operation. In the Rogue River Valley, the Anjou crop was about harvested by October 1 but some Bosc remained to be packed. In Hood River, the crop of Anjous is above earlier expectations. The California Bartlett crop

has been harvested, although some volume of fruit for fresh markets is still in storage. Harvest of fall and winter varieties is well advanced.

Plums and Prunes—The California plum crop is placed at 56,000 tons compared with 97,000 tons last year and the average of 79,000 tons. Harvest was completed about mid-September. Michigan plums are estimated at 7,800 tons compared with 4,800 tons last year and 5,060 tons average. Harvest was about completed by the first of October.

Total production of prunes in Washington, Oregon and Idaho is placed at 86,900 tons (fresh basis) compared with 95,400 tons last year and the average of 115,560 tons. In these three states about 46,370 tons were sold fresh this year, 7,800 tons dried (2,500 dry basis), 24,710 tons canned, and 1,030 tons frozen. Last year utilization in Washington, Oregon and Idaho amounted to 38,260 tons sold fresh, 13,200 tons dried (4,400 tons dry basis), 33,600 tons canned and 2,890 tons frozen.

Cranberries—The cranberry crop is forecast at 812,500 barrels—11 percent below the September 1 forecast, 11 percent below 1951, but 6 percent above average. Prospects declined in Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Oregon but improved in New Jersey and Washington. Massachusetts is expecting a crop about 10 percent below average while above average crops are expected in each of the other states.

Citrus—The U. S. production of *early and midseason oranges* for 1952-53 harvest is estimated at about 61.6 million boxes—8 percent above the crop of 1951-52. Florida's production is forecast at 46 million, of which 2 million boxes are Temple oranges. In 1951-52 Florida produced 43.8 million boxes including 1,700,000 boxes of Temples. California Navel and miscellaneous oranges are placed at 14.2 million boxes, an increase of 12 percent over 1951-52. Texas, showing some recovery from freeze damage, has a prospective crop of 780,000 boxes of early and midseason oranges for 1952-53, compared with 200,000 last year. Florida's Valencias at 35 million boxes, show only a slight increase from last season. The first estimate of California Valencias will be made in December.

U. S. production of *grapefruit* (excluding California summer crop) is estimated at 37,210,000 boxes—5 percent less than the 38,970,000 boxes produced in 1951-52 but a little larger than the 35,970,000 boxes utilized in 1951-52. The Florida crop at 33 million boxes for 1952-53 compares with 36.0 million produced last season, of which 33.0 million were utilized. Arizona grapefruit production at 3.0 million, is an increase of nearly 900,000 boxes over 1951-52. Texas, recovering slowly from the freeze of 1951, expects 450,000 boxes.

Potato Production

The U. S. potato crop is now estimated at 345,561,000 bushels, 8 million bushels larger than indicated a month ago, according to BAE. This increase is in the late crop with four-fifths of it in the West and the remainder in the central part of the country. There was a slight decline in the eastern crop during September. Indicated production is 6 percent larger than the short crop of 1951, but 17 percent below average. Unusually high yields are being dug in the West. The 327-bushel yield per acre indicated for the 10 western late states exceeds the previous record high of 310 bushels realized in 1950. The indicated national yield of 244 bushels per acre has been exceeded only by the record yield of 253 bushels in 1950, BAE said.

For the 29 late potato states, the 278,732,000-bushel crop now indicated is 22.8 million bushels larger than the 1951 production. Four-fifths of this increase is in the West where record high yields are being dug in Idaho, Colorado, and Utah.

There was no significant change in the prospective crop in the East during the past month.

Sweet Potato Production

During September sweet potatoes made further recovery from the mid-summer drought and a crop of 30,814,000 bushels is now in prospect, according to BAE. Indicated production is 4 percent larger than estimated a month ago, 9 percent above the 1951 production but only 53 percent of average. Improvement during the past month was limited to New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Alabama. Yields now indicated for Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas are below those in prospect a month ago.

In New Jersey, heavy rains during early September were followed by favorable weather for crop development. Digging was getting under way as the month ended. The set is a little heavier than expected prior to harvest.

BAE reported that digging has been delayed in Maryland and Delaware, permitting additional sizing of the crop. This increase in size has partially offset the light set. Late plantings in Virginia were aided by September rains.

1952 Procurement Methods

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recommended for next year could not be maintained. The Quartermaster General would be obliged to return to the advertised bid basis for procurement and he would find it impossible to obtain the annual canned food requirements in the can sizes and styles of pack that are most economical for feeding military forces. The cost of buying miscellaneous warehouse stocks composed of small-sized containers would be greater both in dollars spent and in inefficient handling all along the supply chain, including the mess hall operation.

"We further recommend, therefore, that a complete and objective study of the procurement of seasonal canned foods be undertaken. It is our belief that such a study would establish complete justification for amendment of the various peacetime statutes covering procurement so that current methods may be made permanent."

Economic Indicators

(Concluded from page 279)

duction and production of manufactured food products:

	August, 1952	Percent Change from (1935-39 July, 1951)	August, 1952
Total Industry.....	215	+11.4	-0.9
Manufactured Food Products.....	163	0	-1.8
CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	126	-10.0	-9.4

Employment—Despite the usual exodus of students from the labor force at the start of the school year the total employment declined only 94,000 from August to September. During the corresponding period a year ago the decline was 1,050,000. As a result in September the job total was the highest on record for the season. Unemployment in September was down to 1.4 million, the lowest since World War II days. Latest employment data for the canning and preserving industry with comparisons are included in the following table:

	Percent Change from Latest Month	One Month Ago	One Year Ago
(thousands)			
Total Employment.....	62,260	-0.2	+1.1
Total Manufacturing.....	15,891	+4.6	-0.7
CANNING AND PRESERVING....	178	+20.3	-0.9

Distribution—Department store sales increased less than seasonally in September but were above the same period of a year ago. The Federal Reserve Board's seasonally adjusted index for department store sales stood

at 106 (1947-49-100) in September compared with the high of 114 in August. Total business inventories were about 1 percent less than a year ago while total business sales were running about 1 percent above last year's. Of the three components of business inventories—manufacturing, wholesale and retail, only manufacturing inventories were higher than a year ago. However, sales at all levels of trade except wholesale, are up from a year ago. Latest available data concerning inventories and sales for the canning and preserving industry are shown with comparisons in the table below:

	Latest Month*	One Month Ago	One Year Ago	Percent Change from
				(billion dollars)
Inventories				
Total Business.....	69.5	+0.1	-0.9	
Manufacturing.....	42.9	+1.7	+5.5	
Food & Kindred Products.....	3.4	0	-5.3	
CANNING AND PRESERVING.....	.6	+22.7	-0.8	
Wholesale—total.....	9.3	-1.1	-7.9	
Retail—total.....	17.3	-3.0	-11.0	
Food Stores.....	2.0	-3.2	+6.1	
Sales				
Total Business.....	44.1	-0.3	+1.0	
Manufacturing.....	22.2	+2.1	+2.2	
Food and Kindred Products.....	3.2	+2.5	+4.3	
CANNING AND PRESERVING.....	.2	+15.9	+35.4	
Wholesale—total.....	8.5	-3.4	-3.4	
Retail—total.....	13.4	-1.9	+2.4	
Food Stores.....	3.3	+0.2	+6.6	

*Latest month for Canning and Preserving, Food and Kindred Products and Food Stores is July, all others, August.

Income and Expenditures—Reflecting the general improvement of economic activities the August and September consumer disposable income moved up to an annual rate of \$233 billion in the third quarter of 1952, \$1.5 billion above the second quarter of 1952 and nearly \$6 billion above a year ago. Per capita disposable income reached an annual rate of \$1,480 in the third quarter. Consumer expenditures also advanced in the third quarter. So that savings increased only slightly from an annual rate of \$16.5 billion in the second quarter of 1952 to \$17 billion in the third quarter or 7.3 percent of disposable income. In the third quarter of 1951 consumer savings were at the annual rate of \$20.7 billion which was the equivalent of 9.1 percent of disposable income. Total expenditures for food in the second quarter of 1952 were running about 6.5 percent above one year ago and on a per capita basis about 4.5 percent above one year ago. The latest available data on consumer in-

come and expenditures are included in the following table:

	3rd Quarter, 1952	2nd Quarter, 1952	3rd Quarter, 1951	Percent Change from
	(billion dollars)	(billion dollars)	(billion dollars)	(percent change)
Disposable Personal Income.....	233.0	223.0	223.0	+0.6 + 2.6
Expenditures, Non-Durable Goods.....	119.5	113.5	113.5	+1.4 + 5.6
Personal Net Savings.....	17.0	17.0	17.0	+3.0 -17.9

Prices—The Bureau of Labor Statistics wholesale price index rose slightly in August to 112.1. However by the end of September it had dropped back to 111.0. The weekly wholesale price index for all commodities declined each week in September. The weekly wholesale index for processed foods likewise declined each week during September and at the end of September was 2.2 points below the index of a year ago. The August price indexes with percentage comparisons for one month and one year earlier are shown in the table below:

	August, 1952	Percent Change from (1935-39 July, 1951)	July, 1952	August, 1951
Consumer Price Index-all items.....	191.1	+0.2 + 3.0	191.1	188.0
All Food.....	235.5	+0.3 + 3.7	235.5	229.0
CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.....	162.6	+0.1 - 1.9	162.6	164.5
(1947-49 = 100)				
Wholesale Price Index-all commodities.....	112.1	+0.3 - 1.4	112.1	113.5
CANNED FRUITS AND JUICES.....	105.3	+1.6 + 2.5	105.3	103.0
Frozen Fruits and Juices.....	87.7	+1.7 - 13.1	87.7	101.0
Fresh Fruits and Juices.....	121.0	-4.6 + 24.5	121.0	96.5
CANNED VEGETABLES AND SOUPS.....	97.2	+1.2 + 2.5	97.2	95.0
Frozen Vegetables.....	91.8	0 - 0.5	91.8	92.3
Fresh Vegetables.....	129.4	-0.3 + 55.0	129.4	84.0

Invitations for Bids

Quartermaster Purchasing Office—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration, Wash. 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is \$10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

FAIRY PASSOVER—3,035 dozen 1-lb. jars each of blackberry, grape, cherry and strawberry jams, f.o.b. destination. Bids due in Chicago under QM-11-009-53-500 by Oct. 22.

The Veterans Administration has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

APRICOTS—2,026 dozen No. 2 cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due under S-86 by Oct. 23.

FOREIGN TRADE

Escape Clause Commodities To Be Reviewed Periodically

President Truman issued an Executive Order October 14, directing the Tariff Commission to make periodic reviews of economic developments affecting commodities which may have been the subject of reciprocal trade agreement "escape clause" action.

The order also directs the Commission, whenever in its judgment such action is warranted, to institute a formal investigation to determine whether the suspension or modification of a tariff concession should be terminated. On this point, the order (Executive Order 10401) says:

"Whenever in the judgment of the Tariff Commission conditions of competition with respect to the trade in the imported article and the like or directly competitive domestic product concerned have so changed as to warrant it, or upon request of the President, the Commission shall institute a formal investigation to determine whether, and, if so, to what extent, the withdrawal, suspension, or modification of a trade agreement concession remains necessary in order to prevent or remedy serious injury or the threat thereof to the domestic industry concerned."

"As a part of any such investigation the Commission shall hold a hearing at which interested parties shall be given reasonable opportunity to be present, to produce evidence, and to be heard. Upon completion of such an investigation the Commission shall report to the President its findings as to what extent, if any, the withdrawal, suspension, or modification involved remains necessary in order to prevent or remedy serious injury or the threat thereof to the domestic industry concerned."

Philippine Import Ban

Imports of tomato cataup are among several items banned for import into the Philippines under provisions of an Executive Order issued September 13 by the Philippine cabinet, according to the October 6 issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*.

For the second half of 1952 the Philippines will grant to new importers exchange allocations equivalent to 50 percent of their import quotas for the first half of the year. The allocations will be distributed in the ratio of 75 percent for controlled essential items and 25 percent for non-essentials.

Canned Fruits and Juices Reclassified by Venezuela

The Venezuelan customs classifications for canned fruits and fruit juices has been amended, effective October 12, to exclude tropical fruits, pineapple, and citrus fruits from the canned fruit classification and to establish higher duties for fruit juices derived from these fruits, according to the October 13 issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*.

These classification amendments are designed to implement the new U. S.-Venezuelan trade agreement effective October 11. The classifications as amended and applicable duties, in bolivars per gross kilogram, are as follows:

- 15-A Fruits, canned: Natural fruits except tropical fruits, pineapples, and citrus fruits, preserved in cans or jars in light syrups of 20 to 50 percent sucrose or dextrose. 1.20.
- 15-B Fruits in syrup except tropical fruits, pineapples, and citrus fruits, preserved in cans or jars in syrup of more than 50 percent sucrose or dextrose. 1.30.
- 15-C Unspecified. 2.00.
- 57-A Sterilized fruit juices: Derived from tropical fruits, pineapples, and citrus fruits. 2.00.
- 57-B Unspecified. 0.40.

The new U. S.-Venezuela trade agreement specified No. 15-A at a duty of 0.90 bolivar; No. 15-B at 1.00 bolivar, and No. 57-B at 0.40 bolivar, which are actually bindings of the duties specified for these items in the 1939 agreement with the exception that tropical fruits, citrus fruits, and pineapple are now excluded.

Higher Tomato Products Duty

Venezuela has imposed higher import duties on tomato products, effective October 12, according to the October 13 issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*. The amended customs classification of tomato products and the duties, in bolivars per gross kilogram, is as follows:

- 36-D Preserves and preparations: From tomatoes: (1) Sauces, 2; (2) Juices, 5; (3) Pastes, 5; (4) Tomatoes canned in proper containers, 5; (5) Preparations containing tomatoes as the principal component, 5.

[*Note:* The specifications covered in subparts No. 1 through 5 are subject to the following conditions: The container should be made to close automatically, without toxic metal or solder, the interior part being lined with a varnish to protect the food from contact with the metal of the can, the date of manufacture being recorded on the label.]

All of these products were formerly included under No. 36-D without breakdown at the single rate of 1.20 bolivar. The substantial increase in duties is to provide additional tariff protection to the domestic tomato-canning industry.

STANDARDS

PMA Mushroom Standards

The Production and Marketing Administration announced October 14 it is considering revision of the U. S. standards for grades of canned mushrooms, to incorporate provisions of the FDA Standards of Identity and Fill of Container (see *INFORMATION LETTER*, Sept. 13, page 256; *Federal Register*, Oct. 17).

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